STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In Re: CERTIFICATION PROCESS OF)	DOCKET NO. 3438
GAS SERVICE EMPLOYEES)	

UPDATED RESPONSE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO LEGAL ISSUES RAISED BY THE COMMISSION AND POSITION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH RESPECT TO THE DRAFT RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS OF GAS SERVICE EMPLOYEES

At this point, the Attorney General has no changes to offer with respect to his "Response of the Attorney General to Legal Issues Raised by the Commission" filed with the Commission on July 24, 2002.

Further, in view of the litigation currently pending in U.S. District Court with respect to a number of the statutes relevant to the proposed rules and regulations, in view of the Attorney General's motion for a stay filed with the Commission on February 5, 2003, and in view of the fact that the Attorney General is concerned that further representations by state authorities in the instant proceeding could jeopardize the interests of the People in U.S. District Court, the Attorney General believes it would not be in the best interests of the People and the State of Rhode Island for the Attorney General to take a position at this time in this administrative docket with respect to the draft rules and regulations governing the certification process of gas service employees. The Attorney

General does, however, reserve any and all rights to continue to participate on behalf of the People and the State of Rhode Island in these proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICK C. LYNCH ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND By his attorney,

William K. Lueker (#6334) Special Assistant Attorney General Department of Attorney General 150 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903 tel. (401) 274-4400, ext. 2299

fax (401) 222-3016

Dated: February 5, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the within document was served this 5th day of February, 2003, via first class mail, postage prepaid, upon each person designated on the official service list in this proceeding.

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February 5, 2003

BY HAND DELIVERY

Luly Massaro, Clerk Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Certification Process of Gas Service Employees, Docket No. 3438

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding are an original and nine (9) copies of the Updated Response Of The Attorney General To Legal Issues Raised By The Commission And Position Of The Attorney General With Respect To The Draft Rules And Regulations Governing The Certification Process Of Gas Service Employees.

Very truly yours,

William K. Lueker (#6334) Special Assistant Attorney General

Enclosures cc: Service List